



Select Country Engagements

Interagency Responses to Conflict

In addition to the sustained major engagement in Afghanistan, the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction & Stabilization (S/CRS) and the Civilian Response Corps have been actively involved in projects in other countries. A few examples follow.

Bangladesh

- ▶ A yearlong partnership between S/CRS and the U.S. Embassy in Dhaka enabled a whole-of-government assessment and planning process that helped form a common vision and strategy for Bangladesh.
- ▶ An S/CRS team facilitated a strategic planning process with all Embassy sections that resulted in the U.S. government's FY-2011 three-year Mission Strategic Plan (MSP) for Bangladesh and fostered a shared understanding across relevant U.S. agencies of the political and socio-economic environment, structures, and processes needed to coordinate and implement that strategy.
- ▶ The State Department later named Embassy Dhaka's FY-2011 Mission Strategic Plan "MSP of the Year."

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

- ▶ In DRC, S/CRS-deployed personnel, whole-of-government planning, and projects funded by 1207 all brought a more comprehensive U.S. government approach to the effort to alleviate the underlying drivers of conflict in a country of strategic importance.
- ▶ Since November 2009, S/CRS has been coordinating the interagency staffing of five assessment teams in priority sectors: anti-corruption; economic governance; agriculture and food security; security sector reform; and sexual and gender-based violence. Eleven Civilian Response Corps members are among more than 30 individuals from the six different U.S. government agencies participating in the on-the-ground assessments.
- ▶ DRC has an ongoing 1207 project that seeks to increase judicial services, support mobile courts, and fund training for border police, local authorities, civilian legal personnel, military investigators, prosecutors, and magistrates.

Sudan

- ▶ Sudan is the Civilian Response Corps's longest-running country engagement since early 2005.
- ▶ Between 2006 and 2008, Civilian Response Corps members stood up a field office in El Fasher, Darfur, and created "Peace Secretariats" in both Khartoum and El Fasher. The remote field site provided a base of operations to extend the reach of the U.S. Embassy to better liaise with African Union and UN peacekeeping officials, engage local Sudanese officials, interact with civil society representatives, and provide vital reporting on a range of related reconstruction and stabilization issues.
- ▶ Most recently, the Office of the Special Envoy for Sudan (S/USSES) requested the Corps's assistance to assess security issues in various parts of Sudan and to help implement the U.S. government's recently released strategy for Sudan. Currently, one State Department officer is serving in S/USSES and one Civilian Response Corps member from the Treasury Departments is serving in the field.

Somalia

- ▶ Somalia's \$25M 1207 project funds security sector reform and capacity building for Transitional Federal Institutions.
- ▶ Civilian Response Corps members from the Departments of State and Justice recently supported a joint U.S.-UN Somalia security sector assessment based in Kenya. The team focused on the justice and police pillars of the assessment and provided coordination and synthesis on cross-cutting issues. The assessment report feeds into the National Security Council's recently released implementation strategy for Somalia and provides a menu for donor contributions to security sector reform in that country.
- ▶ The Corps's participation in the assessment heightened understanding of the reconstruction environment in Somalia, solidified relationships with the international community in Nairobi, and helped create a foundation for possible future engagement in support of U.S. foreign policy objectives in the region.